

SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO:

TITLE V—RENEWABLE ENERGY

[Note: Sections in italics indicate that staff are not in substantive agreement on the provisions. Technical changes made to the staff draft have been cleared, and are not noted here. For your convenience, a redlined version of the title reflecting all changes is included along with the joint staff draft.]

Subtitle A—General Provisions

SEC. 501. ASSESSMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES.

- Ocean tidal and ocean thermal resources included explicitly in list of resources to be assessed.

SEC. 502. RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION INCENTIVE.

Complete replacement with text of S. 421 (108th Cong.) – substantially similar, but requires 60% of appropriated funds to be used for wind, solar, geothermal, and closed-loop biomass, other minor changes. New language is same as in House-passed provision in 2003.

SEC. 503. RENEWABLE ENERGY ON FEDERAL LANDS.

- Ocean tidal and ocean thermal resources included in National Academy of Sciences study of renewable energy potential on the Outer Continental Shelf.

SEC. 504. FEDERAL PURCHASE REQUIREMENT.

- *Includes new definition of “biomass” taken from Section 45 of the Internal Revenue Code.*
- Modifies definition of “renewable energy” to clarify eligibility only for incremental hydropower at existing facilities.

SEC. 505. INSULAR AREA RENEWABLE AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY PLANS.

New section since staff draft. Is condensed version of similar provision in last year’s Senate-passed bill: requires updates of renewable energy and energy efficiency plans in insular areas.

Subtitle B—Hydroelectric Relicensing

SEC. 511. ALTERNATIVE CONDITIONS AND FISHWAYS.

No substantive changes from the staff draft.

Subtitle C—Geothermal Energy

SEC. 521. COMPETITIVE LEASE SALE REQUIREMENTS.

No substantive changes from the staff draft.

SEC. 522. GEOTHERMAL LEASING AND PERMITTING ON FEDERAL LANDS.

- Includes National Forest Lands
- Removes 30-day timeline for actions

SEC. 523. LEASING AND PERMITTING ON FEDERAL LANDS WITHDRAWN FOR MILITARY PURPOSES.

No substantive changes from the staff draft.

SEC. 524. REINSTATEMENT OF LEASES TERMINATED FOR FAILURE TO PAY RENT.

No substantive changes from the staff draft.

SEC. 525. REVIEW AND REPORT TO CONGRESS.

Section stricken.

SEC. 526. ROYALTY REDUCTION AND RELIEF.

Section stricken.

SEC. 527. ROYALTY EXEMPTION FOR DIRECT USE OF LOW TEMPERATURE GEOTHERMAL ENERGY RESOURCES.

Section stricken.

ADDED – SEC. 525. ROYALTY REDUCTION AND RELIEF.

Requires Secretary to undertake rulemaking on geothermal royalties and on a schedule of fees for low-temperature geothermal resources.

Subtitle D—Biomass Energy

SEC. 531. DEFINITIONS.

- Modifies definition of biomass and clarifies that biomass must come from Federal or Indian lands.

SEC. 532. BIOMASS COMMERCIAL UTILIZATION PROGRAM.

- Gives priority to grants for biomass operations in the highest risk areas.

SEC. 533. IMPROVED BIOMASS UTILIZATION GRANT PROGRAM.

- Gives priority to grants used to improve biomass use or add value to biomass in highest risk areas.

SEC. 533. IMPROVED BIOMASS UTILIZATION GRANT PROGRAM.

- Moves prescriptive language on content of the Secretary's report to Congress from legislation to report language.